Members of Parliament had requested RBI to rush funds to currency chests in Vidarbha and Marathwada regions.

(c) The last harvesting season witnessed bumper crops of sugarcane and cotton in Marathwada and Vidarbha regions. The Government of Maharashtra also increased the purchase prices for sugarcane and cotton. These two developments resulted in temporary increase in the demand for cash from the District Central Cooperative Banks which maintain accounts with the Currency Chests of public sector banks in the region. The Reserve Bank which replenishes the funds in the currency chests did not also receive any advance intimation about the temporary demand for funds.

(d) RBI have advised their Nagpur Office to make arrangements to meet the seasonal demand for funds to currency chests located in Vidarbha/Marathwada regions. RBI Nagpur is also arranging to send funds from surplus chests to deficit ones.

Granting more powers to SEBI to Improve its Functioning

*177. SHRI S. MUTHU MANI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has sought more powers to perform its functions better;

(b) if so, what action has been taken by Government to grant more powers to SEBI;

(c) whether it is also a fact that if more powers are granted to SEBI, it can regulate the stock markets in a better way; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that in the countries like the United State of America, institutions like SEBI are empowered with more powers?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) SEBI's powers have been substantially strengthend through the Securities Laws (Amendment) Act, 1995. The additional powers, inter alia, relate to imposing monetary penalties for violations committed by market intermediaries, issuing directions to companies in matters relating to issue of capital and transfer of securities and regulating the working of new market intermediaries such as depositories, foreign institutional investores, credit rating agencies, venture capital funds and collective investment schemes in addition to the existing ones.

Strengthening of SEBI is periodically reviewed and necessary steps taken, if felt necessary.

(d) The structure and functioning of capital markets differ between countries and rules and regulations evolve according to the specific market needs. Therefore, comparing powers of regulators in markets having different characteristics may not be appropriate.

Revision of Criteria for Appointment of Members of Central Board of Film Certification

*178. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM:
SHRI IQBAL SINGH:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the

present Members of Central Board of Film Certification have no relation with literature, art, culture and language; if so, on what basis they have been empanelled;

(b) whether criteria for their appointment would be revised as per the requirement;

(c) details of the regular meetings of the Board held so for during the last two years and reasons for non-convening of regular meetings; and

(d) Government's policy regarding the nomination of eminent social thinkers on the Board?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a), (b) and (d) Under section 3(1) of the Cinematograph Act, 1952, for the purpose of sanctioning films for public exhibition, the Central Government constitutes the Central Board of Film Certification which shall consist of a Chairman and not less than twelve and not more than twentyfive other members appointed by the Central Government. The critieria being followed for appointment of members of the Board are that they should be persons from different walks of life such as social sciences, law, teaching, literature, art, culture etc. who are qualified, in the opinion of the Central Government, to judge the effect of films on the public. The Board as at present constituted includes persons from literature, art, culture, social work, academics etc. There is, therefore, no proposal to revise these criteria.

*The Question was actually asked in the floor of the House by Shrimati Renuka Chowdhury.

(c) The details of meetings of the Board held during 1994 to 1996 are as follows:-

Year	No. of meetings	Date of meeting
1994	1	2.7.94
1995	—	—
1996	1	24.8.96

The actual examination of films is done by the Examining Committees and Revising Committees. A member of the Board is associated at the level of Revising Committee. Meetings of the full Board are required only for deciding policy matters. Such meetings of the Board are called by the Chairman as and when necessary, considering the quantum of work to be transacted availability of funds in the budget etc.

Ambitious Action Plan to ensure minimum health Facilities to all by the turn of the Century

*179. SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have since prepared/have been preparing an ambitious action plan to ensure extension of minimum health services and facilities to all by the turn of the century; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and it not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) and (b) India is a signatory to the Alma Ata Declaration of 1978 and is committed to attaining the goal of Health For All by the year 2000 A.D. through the primary health care approach. To provide the Health for All, a huge rural